

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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United States Department of Agriculture

Summary of Exhibit

FOREST FIRE AT NIGHT

Each year forest fires burn an area of 11,000,000 acres of land, with a yearly damage of nearly \$17,000,000. This is exclusive of the intangible and indirect losses, for with the destruction of the forests we are depriving our wild life of shelter and food, and destroying the young growth essential for the continuation of our forests.

Our forests are disappearing four times as fast as new timber is being grown, and twice as many acres of forest land are burned each year as are cut over in lumbering operations. More than 90% of all forest fires are caused by human agencies, and are preventable. Nearly all of them can be attributed directly to carelessness.

The exhibit, "Forest Fire at Night," showing something of the terrible character and destructiveness of a forest fire, it is hoped will be of aid in impressing upon the public an appreciation of their seriousness and the need of active help in their prevention.

This group is housed in a booth 15 feet wide, 10 feet deep and 8-1/2 feet high. An opening or window in the front 7 feet wide and 3-1/2 feet high displays the scene.

On a panoramic painted background is depicted a fire sweeping through a forest at night, the flames, smoke and red glare silhouetting the burned tree trunks in a very realistic way. In the foreground is a tangle of burned logs, snags and saplings. By means of concealed lights and flickering flames made of thin silk agitated by fans the illusion of fire is carried out. At one side the smoke-blackened figure of a Forest Ranger, shovel in hand, stands guarding the line.

A sign over the window of the booth carries the Forest Service slogan "Help Prevent Forest Fires - It Pays."

Crated for shipment it weighs approximately 1500 pounds.

Farmers' Bulletin 1417 and the pamphlets

Vacation in National Forests

Government Forest Work

Forests and Forestry in the United States

contain further information on forest fires. They may be obtained without cost from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



